

41450

Handwritten: HWM Pro Individual X

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

PLEASE REPLY TO:

150 SOUTH MAIN STREET
DOYLESTOWN, PA 18901
(215) 345-8543

☐ ONE OXFORD VALLEY, SUITE 700
LANGHORNE, PA 19047
(215) 757-8181

IN UPPER BUCKS COUNTY CALL
(215) 538-2222

IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY CALL
(215) 443-8008

June 12, 1991


ORIGINAL
(RED)

Edwin Erickson, Regional Administrator
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
841 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: B-PURE

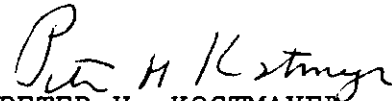
Dear Mr. Erickson:

Enclosed please find material relating to a problem being experienced by one of my constituents.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could look into the matter and provide me with a response.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely,


PETER H. KOSTMAYER
Member of Congress

PHK/swr

Enclosure

ORIGINAL
(RED)

Mr. Edwin Erickson
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
841 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Under the authority of CERCLA Section 105(d), as amended, the petitioner,

BUCKS PEOPLE UNITED TO RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENT (a/k/a B-PURE)
P. O. Box 167, Fairless Hills, Pa. 19030
(215) 946-3699

hereby requests that Region III conduct a preliminary assessment of the suspected release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant at the following location:

Fall Township, Bucks County, Wheelabrator Falls Inc. property adjoining New Ford Mill Road, uplands in the northern section (please refer to "Conceptual Wetlands Mitigation Plan" (map) and accompanying reference in cover letter from PAQ Inc. dated January 17, 1990).

Petitioner is affected by the potential release because:

this site was formerly owned by US Steel Corp. and was used as a repository for wastes from the steel-making process. The substances involved are, to our knowledge, currently unknown and therefore merit examination. We are concerned about their potential impact on the water resources (ground water, aquifer, wetlands and nearby river), and we are also concerned that these substances may be disturbed if and when construction begins on the property.

Type or characteristics of the substance(s) involved:

Unknown. Known toxic waste in nearby borrow pit 20 is coal tar decanter sludge.

Nature and history of any activities that have occurred regarding the release/threatened release:

As previously mentioned, this property was formerly owned by US Steel. A recent study of future uses for surrounding US Steel property has concluded that "Although some evidence suggests waste exists on the site, the EPA and DER do not know at this time the extent of potential contamination on the available acreage" (please see enclosed excerpt, including map entitled "Location of Borrow Pits"). Since the Wheelabrator property was no longer owned by US Steel at the time of this study, it is doubtful this property

ORIGINAL
(RED)

BUCKS PEOPLE UNITED TO RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENT
P. O. Box 167, Fairless Hills, Pa. 19030
(215) 946-3699

May 28, 1991

Mr. Edwin Erickson
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
841 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Dear Mr. Erickson:

Enclosed please find a Preliminary Assessment Petition for a property in Falls Twp., Bucks County. This site was formerly owned by US Steel, and was used as a repository for wastes.

Pursuant to a phone conversation with John Seager, aide to Congressman Peter Kostmayer, I understand that the Congressman's office will also be in communication with you concerning this location.

Please let us know if our petition is in any way insufficient.

Sincerely,

Carol Fanelli

Carol Fanelli
Chairperson, B-PURE

CF/bl

Enclosures

cc: Hon. Peter H. Kostmayer ✓
Hon. Arthur Davis
Hon. Robert P. Casey

ORIGINAL
(RED)



1080 QUARRY HALL ROAD RD#1 NORRISTOWN, PA 19403 215/564-1829

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS • WETLANDS ASSESSMENTS • PLANNING STUDIES

January 17, 1990

Federal Express Tracking No. 4873788010

Richard C. Shannon, Jr.
Environmental Review Section
Division of Rivers and Wetlands Conservation
Department of Environmental Resources
3600 Vartan Way
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

RE: Wheelabrator Falls Inc. Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility
Falls Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Conceptual Wetlands Mitigation Plan

Dear Mr. Shannon:

We are pleased to submit the attached "Conceptual Wetlands Mitigation Plan" for the proposed Wheelabrator Falls Inc. Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility in Falls Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

The area highlighted in orange on Sheet 2 of 2 on the site plan shows the area planned for emergent/shrub wetland creation activities. This location tends to centralize the wetlands complex on the site and avoids the other environmentally sensitive areas such as the possible endangered species habitat in the southwest, the historic site in the southeast, and the possible contaminated uplands in the northern section. The removal of 2.6 acres of existing slag piles and old haul roads will allow the connection and expansion of otherwise isolated wetland areas.

The typical cross section also shows topsoil, 4 to 6 inches, to be placed over the excavated substrate to improve growing conditions for the wetlands plantings. We propose the planting of a higher value plant community for wildlife benefits.

Based on my and Mr. Carney's telephone conversations with you regarding this project, we understand that the environmental review and approval of the Joint 105/404 Permit is complete pending the receipt of this conceptual plan for wetlands mitigation. We trust that this submittal therefore satisfies all the remaining requirements for final approval of the Joint Permit.

For your convenience in distribution to the review agencies, we have enclosed five sets of the Conceptual Mitigation Plan. If you require additional copies, please call.

Environmental Considerations

The utility of the 2,100 to 2,300 acres for development is uncertain due to the potential existence of hazardous wastes on the site.

- USX has deposited various EPA-listed "hazardous" and "non-hazardous" wastes into various unlined "borrow" pits (see map).
- Borrow Pit #20 contains decanter tank tar sludge, a "hazardous" waste. Under direction of the EPA, USX left the waste in place and "closed" the pit, in part by covering it with a plastic cap. Development on or near Borrow Pit #20 is unlikely.
- Although some evidence suggests waste exists on the site, the EPA and DER do not know at this time the extent of potential contamination on the available acreage, especially in Borrow Pits #3, 8A, 8B, 35, 35A, and 35B.
- An August 1990 EPA report indicated the existence of organics and metallics in the ground water – at some locations above drinking water standards.
- Officials concerned with redevelopment at Bethlehem Steel's Lackawanna, New York facility cited environmental concerns as the primary impediment to progress.
 - Bethlehem is perceived to be in no rush to dispose of its property because such a transaction would speed environmental investigation.
 - Banks are reluctant to finance initiatives without assurances of environmental cleanliness.
- The determination of the extent of hazardous and non-hazardous waste contamination will most likely need to be completed prior to proceeding with redevelopment.

ORIGINAL
(RED)

An Assessment of Redevelopment Issues and Options for the USX Fairless Works

Final Report

Prepared for

County of Bucks

Office of the Commissioners
Administration Building
Doylestown, PA 18901

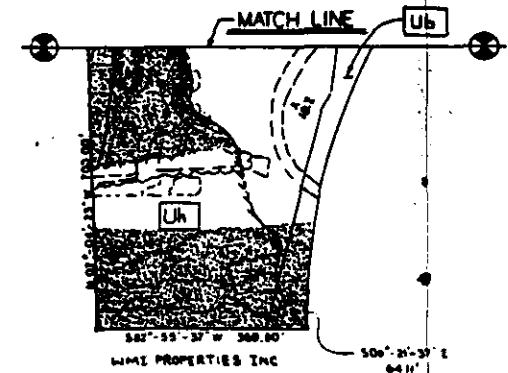
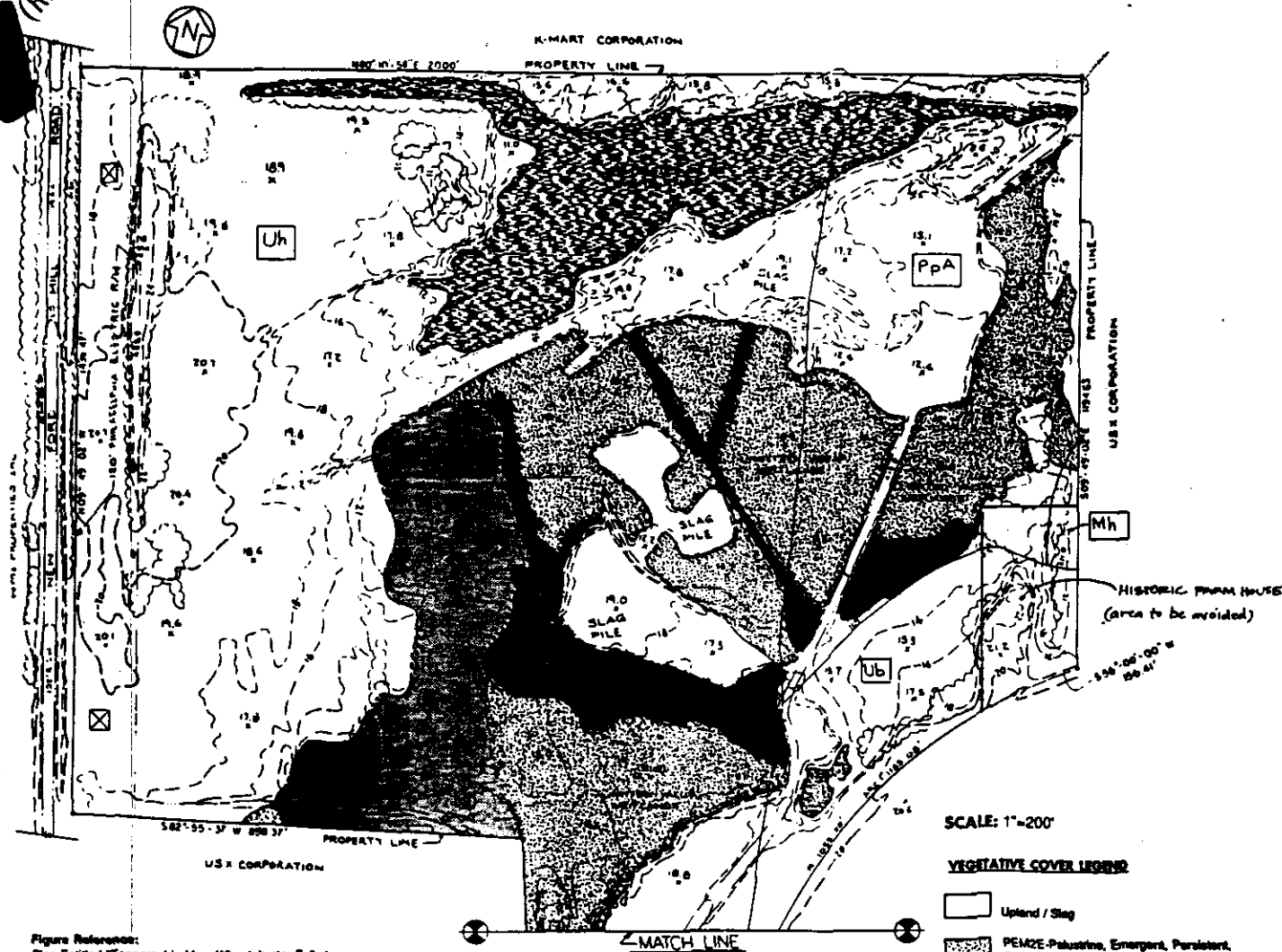
Prepared by

Temple, Barker & Sloane, Inc.

33 Hayden Avenue
Lexington, MA 02173
(617) 861-7580

March 1991

ORIGINAL
(RED)



LEGEND

- TREES
- EXISTING SPOT ELEVATION
- EDGE OF WATER
- EXISTING FACILITIES
- EXISTING CONTOURS
- SCS CLASSIFICATION
- LIMITED VALUE WETLANDS

NOTES:

1. THIS DRAWING IS BASED ON INFORMATION TAKEN FROM USX REALTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DATED 11-10-87 BY SHAWALTER AND ASSOCIATES, P.O. BOX 15, CHALFONT, PA. 18914.

WETLAND CREATION AREA
(expand & connect existing PEMZE)

SCALE: 1"=200'

VEGETATIVE COVER LEGEND

- Upland / Slag
- PEMZE-Palustrine, Emergent, Persistent, Seasonally Saturated
- PUBHX-Palustrine, Unconsolidated Bottom, permanently Flooded, Excavated
- PFO/SS1 Mixed Palustrine Forested and Scrub / Shrub, Deciduous

Figure Reference:
Plan Entitled "Topographic Map, Wheelabrator Falls Inc. Recycling & Energy Recovery Facility", Prepared for Wheelabrator Environmental Systems, Inc., Prepared By Rust International Corporation, Scale: 1"=100' and Dated January, 1989

revised 12/10/89 to show Conceptual Wetland Creation Area.
P. quigley

VEGETATIVE COVER MAP

**WHEELABRATOR FALLS INC.
RECYCLING & ENERGY
RECOVERY FACILITY
IN UNNAMED WETLAND AREA
AT
FALLS TOWNSHIP,
BUCKS COUNTY**